THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Yes. Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. Planning Commission as well as Ministry of Water Resources has released funds for undertaking short-term schemes.

(d) The short-term works identified in the Expenditure Finance Committee Memorandum are planned to be completed by Xth Plan period subject to site condition, results of model studies and availability of funds.

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†WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS SET FOR THE 15TH JULY, 2002

FDI in print media

*1. SHRI ABANI ROY :

DR. ABRAR AHMED :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to allow 26 per cent foreign direct investment in print media inspite of stiff opposition;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the small and medium newspaper industry in the country is likely to suffer a lot due to this decision; and

(d) if so, the steps Government are going to take to protect them?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b) The Government has decided to allow Foreign Direct Investment upto 26% in Indian entities publishing newspapers and periodicals dealing in news and current affairs. It has also been decided to allow Indian editions of foreign scientific, technical and speciality magazines/ periodicals/journals and foreign investment upto 74% in Indian entities publishing scientific, technical and speciality magazines/periodicals/ journals.

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† The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Monday, the 15th July, 2002 was adjourned after the obituary reference. Answers to questions put down in the list for that day were laid on the Table of the House on Tuesday, the 16th July, 2002.

This has been done with a view to, *inter alia,* bring in greater diversity among newspapers and periodicals, bring National dailies to International standards and provide more economical and easier access to foreign scientific, technical and specialist magazines, journals and periodicals.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise, in view of (c) above.

Disinvestment of PSUs

*2. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of public undertakings under various Ministries, Ministry-wise;

(b) the total number of PSUs in respect of which decision has been taken to disinvest them and proceeds realized after completing the process of disinvestment/sale;

(c) the number of PSUs in respect of which a decision has been taken to disinvest but the process not yet completed/proceeds not yet realized after the sale/disinvestment; and

(d) the number of PSUs still with Government and the steps taken to improve their management and functioning?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) The Ministry-wise list of Central Government enterprises as on 31-3-2001 is given in Appendix I of the Public Enterprises Survey, 2000-2001 (Vol. I) which has been laid on the Table of the House on 7-3-2002 and is a published document. This list does not include the companies like—Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd., BALCO, Lagan Jute Machinery Company Ltd. which were privatised before 31-3-2001. Out of the companies listed in the Survey, the CMC Ltd., HTL Ltd., Hindustan Zinc Ltd., Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd., Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. and Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. have also been privatised.